



# National Weather Service

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



January 2005

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
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### KENTUCKY, Northeast

KYZ101-103

Greenup - Boyd

08	1000EST	0	0	5K	Flood
11	1000EST				

The Ohio River crested above flood stage, as a result of heavy rain across the upper Ohio Valley. The crest at Ashland was 55.45 feet during the evening of the 9th. Flood stage is 52 feet. That's the highest stage since the flood of March 1997 reached 60.8 feet. Greenup Lock and Dam crested at 56.7 feet early on the 10th. No damage to dwellings was reported.

### OHIO, Southeast

OHZ066>067-075>076-084>087

Perry - Morgan - Athens - Washington - Vinton - Meigs - Gallia - Lawrence

05	0930EST	1	0	9.0M	Flood
10	1900EST				

Separate waves of rain moved along a strong west to east frontal zone in the Ohio Valley, from late on the 3rd into the early morning hours of the 8th. To the south of the boundary, dew points were in the 50 to 55 degree range. The heaviest rain amounts were from Perry County on north and east into eastern Ohio and western Pennsylvania. Preliminary 5 day totals were 5.2 inches for New Lexington, 4.6 inches at McConnellsville, 4.5 inches at Nelsonville, 4.2 inches at McArthur and Beverly, 3.4 inches at Athens, and 2.9 inches at Marietta.

Small stream flooding started during the morning hours on the 5th, across Perry, Athens, Morgan, Vinton, and Washington Counties. Some of the flooded streams included Jonathan Creek in northern Perry County, plus Monday and Sunday Creeks in southern Perry County and northern Athens County. Sunday Creek crested at 15.8 feet on the 6th at Glouster, and near 23 feet at Millfield. On Monday Creek, the gauge at Doanville crested at 19.1 feet on the 6th. In Perry County, 9 families were evacuated. The small stream flooding across Vinton County was limited to flooded roads.

Significant river flooding occurred on the Muskingum, the Hocking, and the Ohio River. The crest on the Hocking River at Athens was 23.7 feet around 1100E on the 7th. This was the highest level since the 24.65 feet observed on the 25th of May in 1968. It was the highest stage since the river was rechanneled in 1972. The crest level was also the 5th highest on record for Athens. Communities such as Nelsonville and Chauncey were flooded. The lowest and most vulnerable sections of Chauncey had water inside dwellings and other buildings. In Athens, the storm drainage system backup into the business area along East State Street. Some homes on Blick Avenue were flooded. West Union Street was also flooded and closed. Elsewhere in Athens County, the high water along the Ohio River affected Hockingport. All total, about 73 homes in Athens County had minor damage, 56 homes had major damage, and 11 homes were destroyed. About a dozen businesses applied for disaster loans.

In McConnellsville of Morgan County, the Muskingum River crested at 13.45 feet around 1400E on the 6th. This was the highest level since the 13.8 feet seen back in March 1964. Water rescues were performed by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the county sheriff department. An 85 year old woman was rescued from her flooded mobile home along the Muskingum River on the 6th. She did not want to evacuate earlier and had her pets inside. When finally rescued, she was sitting on a chair, with water almost up to her knees. Her feet were swollen. She never recovered from the hypothermia, and died several days later. A second crest would occur less than a week later, from additional rain and dam releases. See the 12th for details. In Morgan County, around 142 homes had minor damage. One furniture store in McConnellsville had flood waters inside.

In Washington County, small stream and river damage was less severe than in September 2004. The Ohio River crested at 41.0 feet at Marietta 2SW during the predawn hours of the 8th. The crest was 42.4 feet the previous September. Flood stage is 34 feet. Downtown Marietta streets and businesses were still flooded, but sandbags protected most 1st floors.

Further down the Ohio River, Racine Lock and Dam crested at 48.9 feet. The crest at Pomeroy was 50.5 feet around 0000E on the 9th. Flood stage is 46 feet at Pomeroy. Back in September 2004 the crest was 51.2 feet. Water still got into businesses. All total, Meigs County had 17 homes with minor damage, 2 homes with major damage, and 3 homes destroyed. Five businesses had major damage and 1 business was destroyed.

The crest near Gallipolis, at the RC Byrd Lock and Dam was 50.3 feet around 1400E on the 9th. This was just over the 50 foot flood stage. For the Chesapeake to South Point reach of the river, the Huntington gauge crested at 51.8 feet during the evening hours of the 9th. This was about 6 inches higher than in September 2004. Flood stage at Huntington is 50 feet.

Around 0845E on the 6th, just north of the Belleville Lock and Dam, the tugboat Jon Strong was heading up the Ohio River. After passing through the lock chamber, 9 of the 12 barges came loose in the strong currents. Three of barges sank under the gates of the



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### OHIO, Southeast

dam, while 3 others were forced up against the dam pier houses. Three other barges went through the structure and were recovered downstream. Salvage crews did not remove all the damaged barges until the last day of the month. Since the gates could not be closed, the pool above Belleville Lock and Dam dropped 10 to 15 feet below normal. River traffic was suspended on the 19th. River bank slippage occurred around Hockingport during the unusually low levels late in the month. This caused damage to roads and a few homes. Water levels returned toward normal in early February.

F85MH

OHZ066>067-075>076

Perry - Morgan - Athens - Washington

11	1815EST	0	0	1.7M	Flood
14	1800EST				

After a 3 day reprieve from precipitation, more rain with embedded thunderstorms, crossed southeast Ohio during the afternoon and evening on the 11th. Rains of 1.25 to 1.75 inches were common, with isolated amounts over 2 inches. Nelsonville measured 2.25 inches. Small streams overflowed and blocked roads. Sunday Creek at Glouster crested barely higher than the previous week, reaching 15.9 feet on the 12th. Sunday Creek at Millfield was 22.2 feet, or slightly lower than the crest on the 6th.

The Muskingum River, aided by dam releases, crested slightly higher than on the 6th. The crest was 13.8 feet around 0900E on the 12th. This was very similar to the March 1964 crest.

The crest on the Ohio River at Marietta was lower than the high water the previous week. The crest was 34.6 feet around 1500E on the 13th.

OHZ066>067-075

Perry - Morgan - Athens

22	0530EST	0	0		Ice Storm
	1200EST				

A mixture of snow and sleet started around 0400E on the 22nd. Yet, the mixture changed quickly to freezing rain. A quarter to a half inch of ice accumulated from freezing rain during the morning. Later that afternoon and evening, the precipitation ended as 1 to 2 inches of snow showers. The Athens County engineer said, "I had one of the most problematic mornings I've ever had in my 25 years at the engineer office." One county dump truck slipped into a ditch while treating roads. For a time, the county road crews pulled over to wait for better traction. No power outages were reported.

### VIRGINIA, Northwest

NONE REPORTED.

### WEST VIRGINIA, West

WVZ005>011

Wayne - Cabell - Mason - Jackson - Wood - Pleasants - Tyler

05	1000EST	0	0	1.6M	Flood
10	2000EST				

Separate waves of rain moved along a strong west to east frontal zone in the Ohio Valley from late on the 3rd into the early morning hours of the 8th. Dew points in the 50 to 55 degree range were in Kentucky and southern West Virginia. The heaviest rain was over eastern Ohio into western Pennsylvania. Yet, Middlebourne of Tyler County still reported 3.24 inches during the period.

Small stream flooding occurred across Tyler County on the 5th, such as along Indian Creek. People were rescued from 2 stranded cars.

The Ohio River crested on the 8th to the 9th along the stretch from Tyler County on down to Cabell and Wayne Counties. The crest



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### WEST VIRGINIA, West

from Willow Island Lock and Dam through Parkersburg was lower than the September 2004 level. The crest at Willow Island was 42.9 feet around 2200E on the 7th. At Parkersburg, the crest was 42.4 feet during the morning of the 8th. Flood stage is 36 feet. With more outflow from the Hocking River than in September 2004, the crest at Point Pleasant and Huntington was slightly higher than the previous year. At Point Pleasant, the crest was 46 feet during the morning hours on the 9th. Flood stage is 40 feet. At Huntington, the crest was 51.8 feet during the evening of the 9th. Flood stage is 50 feet.

In Tyler County, 10 homes had minor water damage. In Pleasants County, 2 homes had major damage. In Wood County, 20 homes had major damage, and 10 homes had minor water damage. Backwater up the Little Kanawha River affected homes in the Happy Valley section near Interstate 77. No damage to homes was reported from Jackson County on down to Cabell and Wayne Counties.

Tyler County was included with several northern panhandle counties in a federal disaster declaration. See FEMA disaster number 1574 for specifics.

Around 0845E on the 6th, just upriver from the Belleville Lock and Dam, the tugboat Jon Strong was heading up the Ohio River. After passing through the lock chamber, 9 of the 12 barges came loose in the strong currents. Three of the barges sank under the tainted gates of the dam, 3 others were forced up against the dam pier houses, and 3 other went through the structure and were recaptured downstream. Salvage crews did not remove all the damaged barges until the last day of the month. Since the gates could not close, this allowed the Belleville pool to drop 10 to 15 feet below normal. River traffic was suspended on the 19th. River bank slippage occurred due to the low levels. About 26 homes along the Little Kanawha River were affected, when about 4,000 feet of the river bank slipped down. The slippage damaged home foundations, docks, patios, and decks. Water levels returned toward normal by early February.

### **WVZ010>011**

#### **Pleasants - Tyler**

<b>11</b>	<b>1900EST</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25K</b>	<b>Flood</b>
	<b>2200EST</b>				

After a 3 day reprieve from the precipitation, more rain with embedded thunderstorms, crossed eastern Ohio into northern West Virginia during the afternoon and evening hours on the 11th. Rain of 1.25 to 1.8 inches was measured. For example, Middlebourne measured 1.75 inches.

Small stream flooding blocked roads during the evening. No structural damage to dwellings was reported

### **WVZ038-046>047**

#### **Webster - Pocahontas - Randolph**

<b>22</b>	<b>0600EST</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Heavy Snow</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>0800EST</b>			

Snow accumulations of 3 to 9 inches fell in 24 hours. Snow and sleet started before dawn on the 22nd. Kumbrow State Forest reported a quick 6 inches of snow by 1000E on the 22nd. The precipitation changed to freezing rain and rain in Randolph and Webster Counties during the mid and late morning. Colder air poured back in, with increasing northwest winds, during the afternoon and night. Snowshoe had 6 inches of new snow during the daylight hours. Accumulating snow showers were seen through the night and into the morning of the 23rd. Snowshoe snow depth went from 5 inches at dawn on the 22nd to 14 inches on the 23rd.

### **WVZ033**

#### **McDowell**

<b>23</b>	<b>1800EST</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Extreme Cold/Wind Chill</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>1000EST</b>			

An 84 year old woman, living alone in a house in Capels, died from exposure to the cold. A local minister had checked on her during Sunday afternoon the 23rd. Her house was warm at that time. Sometime afterwards, late on Sunday or during Monday, her furnace stopped working. She died sometime Monday afternoon or night, on the 24th. Temperatures were on either side of zero at dawn on the 24th. High temperatures on the 24th were in the 25 to 30 degree range, dropping into the teens that night. The temperature in her house was reportedly in the teens, when her body was discovered early on the 25th. F84PH



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### WEST VIRGINIA, West

WVZ035>036

Raleigh - Fayette

29 0900EST  
2200EST

0 0

Ice Storm

Freezing rain started with temperatures in the 20 to 25 degree range. The greatest ice accumulation was from 1100E to 1400E. Ice accumulation from the freezing rain were a quarter to a half inch. Temperature rose to near 32 degrees that evening. Precipitation ended as light snow. Being a weekend, traffic problems were reduced. Power outages did not occur.